

METHOD FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FUEL CELLS INTO ELECTROCHEMICAL PLANTS

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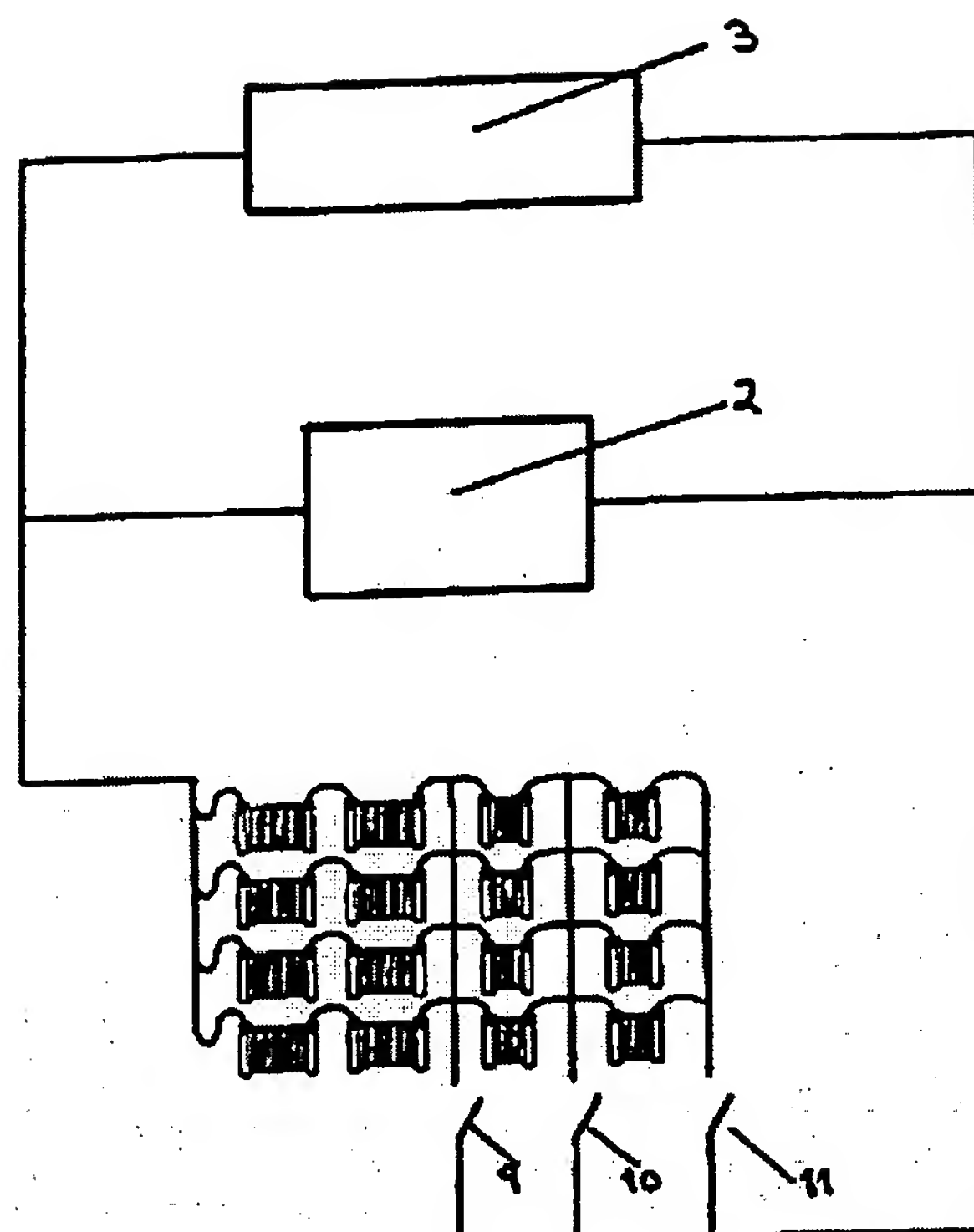
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Abstract of WO9956334

The invention describes a method for the direct connection of fuel cells to electrolyzers (2) of electrochemical plants producing hydrogen as a by-product. The by-product hydrogen is fed to the fuel cells and the electric energy thereby produced is transferred to the electrolyzers (2) - rectifiers (3), with the consequent saving of the overall energy consumption. The direct coupling avoids the need for DC/AC converters or voltage adjusters and may be effected either in series or in parallel. In the

latter case the fuel cells are assembled in modules, the number and voltage of which is regulated by means of interrupters (9, 10, 11) activated by a computerised control and supervision system. As an alternative, the voltage of the modules may be varied by varying the pressure of the air fed to the fuel cells.



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